Reflection on the Book of Exodus

Question: Why would God send His people out

for forty years into a a dry, barren land that

lacks provision for even the necessities of life?

Answer: He doesn't send them out.

He leads them out. He goes with them and

before them.

Why does He lead them into such places?

He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord (Deuteronomy 8:3, NASB).

God let them feel each need,

then waited for them to turn to Him before He

graciously, miraculously, abundantly

met each need.

So don't be surprised when He

allows you to feel your need,

then waits for you to

wait on Him and

trust Him.

He is not being

stubborn or

unfeeling.

He is giving you what you

need most

in all the world:

the firm, personal assurance,

based on repeated, first-hand experience, that

He Himself is

all you want and

all you need.

He is proving that

He can and will be your Pillar of Cloud by day,

leading you certainly and consistently,

though you won't always understand His reasons or methods.

He can and will be your Pillar of Fire by night,

providing light for all your darkest places.

He can and will be Living Water springing up during your driest times.

He can and will be Living Bread, daily bread, nourishing not only your body, but your entire being.

He can and will be a movable tabernacle, His tangible presence going with you everywhere you go.

Your loving Father is teaching you to know Him, trust Him, and treasure Him through absolutely everything that life brings.

Hymn: A Hymn for the Wilderness

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